PRESS COMMENT

The Republican Trend.

The results of the canvass conducted by the Washington bureau of the New York Sun to ascertain the sentiment of the country in respect to Republican candidates for president are of interest more as an indication of the trend of thought and feeling within the party than as a revelation of personal preferences; and this, notwithstanding the fact that the trend has been apparent to intelligent observers for many months. Principles in a democracy are always more important than personalities, and it is the principles of the Republican party that have won its battles and achieved its triumphs. It was an internal war of personalities that caused its downfall in 1912. The foundations of the party were neither disturbed nor involved until men rather than beliefs became the overpowering issue. And in the division which followed the differences of principle were more apparent than real. Fundamentally the Progressives were never far away from the Republicans. They developed some novel theories of popular and governmental powers and duties which were distinguishing decorations of a platform that retained the essential elements of Republicanism.

So it was that when the personal element of contention was removed by dual defeat they began at once to drop back into the places they had but temporarily vacated. They had never been, at heart, anything else than Republicans, even in their bitterest moods, and they did not stultify themselves nor strain their consciences by returning. And now having got together again the party is naturally somewhat disposed to conservatism. This tendency has been apparent for some time, and the Sun's inquiry but adds another bit of evidence of the trend. That it may result in the selection of a conservative candidate is quite within the range of possibility, but certain it is that personality will be subordinated to principles. The Republican platform will not be built upon or around about any man next year. Whoever he may be he will be chosen because of his fitness to stand upon a platform now building in the minds of the people.—The Landmark.

More Money from Each Yankee Acre.

New England land still increases in fruitfulness—because of the spread of intelligence in newspapers regarding methods and the more gregarious living conditions and readier markets brought about by the telegraph, telephone, railways, trolleys, rural delivery and parcel post extensions, and better roads. Figures sent out for public information by the New Haven railways—which are themselves doing better—show that although for some reason 1,000 fewer acres were planted to corn last season the yield per acre rose from 38.3 to 46.2 bushels, and that the total was 9,431,000 bushels as compared with 7,781,000 in 1913 and 8,238,394 in the good year of 1909.

Those other 1,000 acres were sown to oats, and the return was for the entire oat crop 10,362,000 bushels as compared with 9,776,000 in 1913, and 7,350,000 in 1909. Here, too, part of the increase is due to higher production per acre—it rose from 38.2 to 40.56 bushels. But New England's most valuable crop continues to be hay, and that makes a jump of over $5,000,000 in value. The per acre yield was 1.19 against 1.12 tons the season previous; the complete crop about 400,000 tons more, and the price obtained $70,185,000, which is better by $11,000,000 than the record for 1909.

Tobacco prospers and recommends itself to a widening circle of planters. Thus in six years the crop has increased in value from $5,670,000 to $8,721,000, the last figure being three-quarters of a million dollars higher than for 1913. Again, part of the excess is owing to making each acre more fructiferous—an average difference of 163 pounds. The measure of good farming is to compel a plot of certain dimensions to produce more than it ever did before. That is New England's happy achievement for last season.—Boston Transcript.

Presidential Possibilities.

The occasional emissary of a candidate for president is due about this time. Unfortunately, however, he is apt to find a big job cut out for him in getting people interested in national politics during hot weather.

With business folks alternately driving hard at desk, counter, mill or office and joining their womankind in week-end relaxation at the lake, mountain or seaside, they find little time for politics. As for the farmer, the "ketching weather" is absolutely the only source of speculation that he is interested in.

Vermont would be mostly interested in republican possibilities, if we had time, so a news-survey of the field would not be untimely. Among those more frequently mentioned are the following:

Former Senator Elihu Root of New York;

Senator John W. Weeks of Massachusetts;

Justice Charles E. Hughes of the Supreme Court;

Former Senator Theodore E. Burton of Ohio;

Former Governor Myron T. Herrick of Ohio;

Senator Albert B. Cummins of Iowa.

Former Vice-President Charles W. Fairbanks of Indiana;

Congressman James R. Mann of Illinois;

Former Senator Philander C. Knox of Pennsylvania;

Senator W. E. Borah of Idaho.

Mr. Root would be the first choice of most republicans if he would only give the word, but at present is inclined to hold that he could not, on account of considerations of health and strength, enter the field. Short of a very general imperative demand, the opinion of most political student is that Mr. Root is not at present available.

The same thing applies to Justice Hughes, who was favored by a number of Vermonters at the time Mr. Taft was nominated the first time, and who undoubtedly would appeal to a very popular following.

One of the serious possibilities is Senator Weeks. Word comes from Massachusetts, amply confirmed by many newspapers, that the Bay State will urge his nomination by every legitimate means, and that New England will be nearly solid for him. So far, this is the only boom that has made any great headway, and certainly Senator Weeks, with his very considerable experience, natural ability and the endorsement of New England, would be a factor decidedly to be considered.

Burton and Herrick of Ohio cannot both be possibilities, and the "mother of presidents" needs to select one favorite son, despite the distinguished service of Mr. Burton in saving the taxpayers over fifty millions democratic "pork" and that of Mr. Herrick in the European crisis.

Borah of Idaho will get a very considerable following in the West He is a very clever politician, who has steered a wise course between rampant bull-moosing and old fashioned republicanism, but he is hardly of presidential size.

Congressman Mann is an extremely valuable member of the party, but is perhaps as badly needed as floor leader in Congress as anywhere. He would hardly be a serious possibility.

If Mr. Fairbanks could "come back" he would be an excellent campaigner, despite the inveracious reputation of coldness which pursues him. Most newspapers, however, fail to treat him as a potential quantity.

Messrs. Cummins and Knox will have important localized followings, and both are rated very high as republicans who can stay with their principles. So far, however, outside of occasional newspaper appreciations, little solid movement has appeared in their behalf.

Decidedly, a man to keep an eye on is Senator Weeks of Massachusetts, provided always that Mr. Root will not consent to lay aside his natural personal desires and make a very considerable sacrifice in behalf of his party.—Rutland Herald.

The World's Food Harvest of 1915

Much German land formerly used for pasturage, for sugar-beets, and for non-agricultural purposes, has this year been devoted to potatoes, cereals, beans, and garden crops. The total voulme of food thus produced will probably prove much greater than in any former year. The same thing seems to be true of Austria. All reports from Vienna refer to the harvest season in Austria and Hungary as unusually bountiful. The Hungarian plain has always been famous for its wheat, and it is the leading region in the production of our great American staple—maize, or Indian corn—to be found outside of our hemisphere. The very old, the very young, the women, the war prisoners, the city folks, and the soldiers on furlough have all helped in raising and harvesting the crops.

Very little information has come from France regarding current crops; but France is a farming country and ordinarily produces ample bread materials. The British Islands never produce food enough for the whole population. They will in one way or another have maintained their average this year, and Germany's submarine campaign has not impaired to any appreciable extent the facility with which England can import all that she needs from North and South America, Australasia, India, and parts of Africa. Stimulated by the high price of wheat and the European demand, American and Canadian farmers increased their acreage of cereals for this season's crop to a very marked event. The result is that, according to the estimates of the Agricultural Department early in July, the what yield of the United States will be far the greatest in the history of the country, going well beyond the unprecedented crop of last year and reaching a total of almost a thousand million bushels. There were, however, in many parts of the country, very bad conditions during the period of the ripening and harvesting of the winter wheat, which will have caused a shrinkage of millions of bushels in the final outcome. In any case, the United States will have a large wheat surplus to export to Europe as needed. The Canadian wheat crop, particularly in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, will be harvested from a greatly increased acreage, but estimates of the total crop, as compared with that of last year, are not as yet to be regarded as sufficiently accurate for final acceptance. It is probable that the crop will go beyond two hundred million bushels, equaling that of the Dakotas and Minnesota.

There has been unwonted agricultural effort in the Empire of the Czar. The Russian wheat crop, accordingly, is reported as the greatest, both in acreage and in yield per acre, that Russia has ever known. It is presumable that rye and barley (the "black bread" cereals) are being harvested in augmented quantities. There is a large surplus of the 1914 crop in the Russian granaries and storehouses. This is partly due to the cutting off of facilities for export, and also in part to the use of the Russian railroads by the government for military purposes. This summer, large amounts will perhaps have gone out by way of Archangel and other northern ports. It is alleged that until within a few weeks past considerable quantities of Russian wheat found their way into Rumania, where they were in part transshipped to Germany.—From "The Progress of the World," in the American Review of Reviews for August.

VERMONT NEWS

At the annual meeting of the Vermont State Branch, American Federation of Labor, at Burlington last week officers were elected as follows: President, Fred W. Suitor of Barre; vice-presidents, C. E. Cummings of St. Johnsbury, James J. Ready of Rutland, John W. Kelley of Hardwick, James McLean of Northfield and Victor Powers of Bellows Falls; state organizer, E. C. Greenmore of Winooski; corresponding secretary, Alexander Ironside of Barre; financial secretary-treasurer, Nelson W. Malmgrem of Rutland. It was voted to hold the next convention in Barre upon the invitation of the delegates.

Miss Ellen Dewey of Fair Haven was killed at Rutland Wednesday when a big touring car went over an embankment. The six passengers were all pinned under the car. Miss Dewey was 60 years old and librarian at Fair Haven.

Misses Georgia Neddo and Kathleen Hayes of Whitehall, N. Y., were drowned at Lake Bomoseen Friday while in bathing.

A Williamstown lad had a close call last week when he was buried in a sand bank and it took ten minutes of the hardest work a crowd of men were equal to to extricate his unconscious body.

Miss Emily Proctor, daughter of the late Fletcher D. Proctor, and George H. Eggleston of the main office of the Vermont Marble Co. were married Thursday afternoon and left for a trip in the eight cylinder Cadillac which the bride's brother, Mortimer, gave her as a wedding present.

Arrangements are complete for consolidation of some of the largest electrical companies in Vermont. The combination will includes the Hortonia Power Co. whose headquarters are in Rutland, and the Gaysville Electrical Light and Power company, whose headquarters are at Bethel. Over $500,000 will be expended in modernizing the plants already owned and in developing water privileges already secured.

ACTIVITY AT NORWICH UNIVERSITY

Scholarships for Young Men of Vermont—Changes in Officers—New Buildings.

By an act of the last legislature it was made possible for young men of the state to secure higher educational advantages at Norwich University, the State Military College. These scholarships are free, full information regarding them being attainable of any state senator or of the registrar of the Univeristy at Northfield.

Norwich University is making rapid strides educationally, and the entering class in September promises to exceed that of a year ago. On September 7 will begin the 97th year of this institution.

The acting president is Nelson L. Sheldon, the well-known attorney of Boston, a graduate of the University and an educator for many years. Mr. Sheldon will fill the office of President until his successor is named.

Henry W. Orser, assistant treasurer of the Northfield Savings Bank, has been made treasurer of the University and Major George E. Carpenter has been chosen secretary. Dr. John H. Judkins will be the chairman of this year's Executive Committee. To the board of trustees Hon. Alexander Dunnett of St. Johnsbury and Hon. Charles A. Plumley have been elected.

Prof. Joseph H. Sasserno, after a year's leave of absence, returns to the faculty as professor of Modern Languages.

The construction of the new Ainsworth Infirmary, the gift of Mrs. Ainsworth of Williamstown as a memorial to her late husband, Capt. James E. Ainsworth of the class of '53, is progressing.

It is planned to soon begin work on the Hawkins Riding Hall. This structure is made possible by the gift of General Rush C. Hawkins of New York, an admirer of Captain Alden Partridge, the founder of the University.—Adv.

EAST CABOT

(Mrs. W. D. Barr, Correspondent.)

Robert Barr gathered an egg last week that measured 7 3-8 inches by 6 1-4 inches and weighed six ounces.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Chandler and daughter, Eunice, were at St. Johnsbury one day last week.

Harold Abbott of Providence, R. I., and Miss Lou Abbott of Plainfield, and Bert Hoadley of Brattleboro were guests at Walter Abbott's a few days last week.

Mrs. Flora Miles, Miss Helen Miles and Mrs Helen Wilson of Peacham were at Robert Barr's Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Howland and daughter, Esther, of Cabot were recent guests of realtives here.

Mr. and Mrs. Oliver McCosco of West Danville were at N. H. Cate's recently.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Houghton of South Cabot were at George Morse's Sunday.

Mrs. I. C. Peck is home after a two weeks' stay at Walden.

Mark Pelow of Harvey's Hollow and Guy Davenport of Walden were at Mrs. Etta Davenport's over Sunday.

Mrs. Mary Hazlet and son who have been at Gilbert Hill's for a few weeks are working at Thomas O'Brien's at Cabot.

Mr. and Mrs. William Hall of Marshfield were at I. D. Read's Sunday.

Master Lewis Newton, who has been very sick with pneumonia, is able to be about again.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Nelson of Waterford were visitors at C. A. Durgan's recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Abbott were recent visitors at Hardwick.

Harold Miller has finished work for G. D. Morse.

Willie Tibbetts has finished work for R. S. Barr.

Miss Inez Abbott spent Monday and Tuesday at Barre.

Amos Plastridge of Northfield was an over Sunday visitor at Robert Barr's. A. E. Plastridge and wife of Northfield, who are camping at Joe's pond, were also Sunday callers there.

Harry Houghton spent last week with his mother at Lanesboro.

A BILL IN THE BOX

Story of a Legislative Prank In the New York Assembly.

DILEMMA OF A TIMID MEMBER.

Though His Name Was Signed to the Measure He Was Not Its Author and When Ordered to Withdraw It What Little Courage He Had Failed Him.

There was a fake bill introduced in the assembly of New York state during the session of 1902 that really became a famous piece of legislation before it arrived at its formal finis, although it has never until the present time been chronicled in print.

The act was placed in the assembly bill box by two jokers of the assembly. It was drawn up in the regular form, beginning with the necessary verbiage, "The people of the state of New York in senate and assembly represented," etc. The provisions of the first two or three sections were also very plausible, and, in fact, the entire measure was put together in such a way that only a technician in legislative matters could have discerned the joke.

The assembly bill box is a receptacle placed for the measures of the legislators who may wish to have them introduced at the next regular daily session subsequent to their deposit. The box is only used "between times," for when the assembly is in session the bill may be handed up to the clerk for reading. Bills are introduced in duplicate and must bear, of course, the introducer's name.

The jokers dropped the fake bill into the box on a Thursday night. They attached a member's name whose district was in the crowded east side section of New York. He was what was known as a machine man and had little initiative or individuality. He never waited over for Friday morning sessions, as they lasted but a few minutes, and it was easier to take the train to New York Thursday night, returning after recess the following Monday night.

The fake bill with the east side member's name was duly taken out of the box Friday morning and its title read. It was referred to its proper committee and ordered printed. Its purpose was made very plain. At every crossroad throughout the state of New York there must be placed at once by the state engineer and surveyor a signpost with a sign of exactly described dimensions, and lettering measured to a dot, directing travelers to the nearest place for entertainment of man and beast. The angles of the crossroads were specified in their exact degrees with respect to the proper placing of the sign.

No sooner was the title of the bill read than the afternoon newspaper representatives at Albany pricked up their ears. They were on the alert always for New York city legislation, but here was a bill making it mandatory to erect signposts throughout the state, and essentially of rural benefit. Yet a member from a congested New York district had introduced it. Something strange. They searched around for the alleged introducer. He was in New York. They took no chances, however, and telegraphed a column to their papers telling of the attempt to signpost the state by an east side legislator.

The morning papers took it up. Reporters hunted up the assemblyman at his home. He roared out his denial. But nobody believed him. He got a hurry telephone call from his district leader, to whom he swore he had introduced no such bill. He was ordered to ask for the privilege of the floor at Monday night's session and compel the withdrawal of the bill. He had stage fright over the idea. He was almost too bashful to raise his voice when voting at roll call. Meanwhile the news of the bill spread, and from all quarters of the city the luckless assemblymen received telephone messages asking to be "let in on the signpost graft."

The following Monday night the alleged introducer arrived in Albany almost in a state of collapse. All during the ensuing week he was ordered to demand the withdrawal of the bill, but would not rise in his seat and ask it. Finally a member in the secret told the facts to Speaker Nixon. The speaker called the assemblyman to his desk and questioned him. He was satisfied that the legislator was altogether too timid to introduce such a radical bill and exonerated him.

But the bill had been printed. When it was supposed that it had been killed in committee the first thing known was a request for a hearing on it by some good roads workers, who saw in it a blessing and who sent the alleged introducer a congratulatory letter for his public spirited act. The bill of course died in committee, but its memory clung to the east side legislator for many years.—New York Sun.

A Puzzle.

"Some differences are very puzzling."

"Like what, for instance?"

"If you write mean and bad things about a man in a book, it is biography. If you tell the same things about him on the back porch it's gossip."—Baltimore American.

Old Fashioned.

Daughter—What does old fashioned mean? Mother—Anything that I think is right and you don't, dear.—Philadelphia Record.

Punishment is a cripple, but he arrives.—Spanish Proverb.

MAGIC COAL TAR.

Once Despised, It Is Now a Source of Limitless Products.

SPANS THE WORLD OF COLOR.

It Yields Almost Every Shade or Hue and Is Used In Practically Every Industry—In Medicine and Surgery, Also, It Has Worked Wonders.

Among the almost limitless number of natural products of this country coal tar stands well in the lead in the variety of uses to which it may be applied. Evil smelling, it is the rough material from which many valuable substances have been obtained after years of persistence by science and industry.

These substances include a wide range of colors, various burning and lubricating oils, asphalt for pavements, photographic developers and a great number of medicines, flavors and perfumes. Coal tar is used in practically every manufacturing process where dyes are needed, in making cloths, silks, dress materials, colored papers and even colored articles of food.

About a century ago coal tar was considered almost a waste product, and no one had thought it worth while to experiment with it. At that time gas was being introduced as a new light, and Frederick Accum, who wrote one of the first books on gas lighting, suggested the boiling of the tar in a still and the condensation and collection of the volatile products. The experiment was made, and the process yielded two oils. One was heavy and the other light. It was soon found that the heavy could be satisfactorily used as a preservative for wood that had to be fixed underground or submerged in water and was used extensively in preserving piers and wharfs.

Further experiments with the lighter oil were made by a Scotch chemist, Macintosh, who used it in waterproofing the clothing which still bears his name. It also is used as a solvent in varnish making and as coal naphtha for lighting. Experiments with naphtha disclosed a rich treasury of colors which for centuries had been locked up in coal and its refuse—tar. Benzine was extracted from naphtha and this in turn produced the different shades of violet, green, blue and yellow. Later another chemist made the commercial manufacture of benzine possible. He was experimenting on the artificial production of quinine, and, using a base known as aniline, obtained the coloring matter called mauve.

This laid the foundation for the coal tar color industry which has developed until today almost every color and shade of color is derived from aniline. Aniline had been obtained previously from the indigo plant "anil." The discovery of mauve created a large demand for the artificial aniline base and gave unexpected value to benzine. It yelded aniline by being treated with nitric acid and with the borings of cast iron powdered into dust. Having done its work in the aniline still, the dust was used by the gas maker to cleanse his coal gas from sulphur, and then it passed to the manufacturing chemist, who burned the sulphur out of it and produced sulphuric acid—a cycle of operations whose beginning and end was the utilization of waste.

This method of producing color was responsible for the desolate madder fields of France and Holland and for the loss to the Hindus of their long cherished indigo cultivation. Anthracene, one of the heavier oils of coal tar, caused the fall of the madder growing industry. The madder produced violets, reds, blacks, purples and dark browns. Anthracene was sold very cheaply for lubricating purposes until certain chemists heated it with zinc filings and produced alizarin, and then the secret of the madder plant was discovered.

In this way chemistry displaced agriculture, one pound of alizarin having the coloring power of ninety pounds of madder, and the lubricating oil sold at a trifle as waste became a valuable coloring matter worth $500 a ton, thereby creating a vast industry.

In medicine and surgery coal tar has worked wonders. Saccharin, many hundred times the sweetening power of sugar, is used by diabetic patients. Carbolic acid is separated from the oil of coal tar by successive distillations, and in surgical operations a spray of germ killing carbolic acid is used. Quinoline, antipyrine and other fever assuagers are made from coal tar, and various antiseptics and food preservatives also are obtained from it.

Vanilla flavoring for cooking, which formerly was prepared from a bean, can now be obtained from the vanillin of the gas works, and even this vanillin can be made into a heliotrope perfume by adding oil of almonds, while the latter can be produced by treating benzine with an acid. Huge quantites of this oil are used in the making of scented soaps. As a matter of fact there is scarcely a department of life into which the products of coal tar do not enter.—New York Times.

Always on the Go.

"That man never seems to stay long at any one place. What is he doing, anyway?"

"He is helping to take a census of the birds."

"Oh, that accounts for his being constantly on the wing." — Pittsburgh Press.

We must make our election between economy and liberty or profusion and servitude.—Thomas Jefferson.

CLOTH AND CLOTHES.

Why Some Garments Keep and Others Easily Lose Their Shape.

Every one—in this country, at least—wears clothes. They have to. Consequently every one is more or less interested in the question of clothes.

It is not so easy to know good cloth as it seems. Many people, depending on texture, feel, weave and so forth, think that they are judges of cloth. And when, after buying what they believe to be a good piece of cloth, it does not wear well they are greatly surprised.

The durability of cloth depends largely upon the length of the individual fibers. If the fibers are long and curling they form a close and strong weave. The cloth does not crack or wear out at the seams or folds because of the length of fiber, nor does it rub as easily by surface wear because it is more springy or elastic. Short fibers, on the other hand, have much less binding quality because they do not intertwine.

The difference between two suits or dresses in "keeping their shape" is largely due to this same thing. A really first class cloth, properly made and fitted, hardly ever requires pressing. It is elastic, and if it is hung up after having been worn for a day or two it will go right back into shape. The constant sending of trousers to the tailor to have a "crease' put in is a sign that the cloth was not made of long fibers.

If you want your suits or dresses to wear well and to look well first make sure that the cloth is woven from long fibers.—New York American.

Dead Languages.

Dead languages are ones that once were in common use, but are now no longer spoken unless by scholars who have studied them. The ancient Sanscrit, Greek and Latin have been dead many centuries as common speech, although still used to some extent for religious, scientific and literary purposes. Coming down to more recent times, most of the Indian tongues, of which there were many when the white man came, are now dead. All languages have their periods of growth, maturity and decadence, followed by death.—Philadelphia Press.

Quick Change.

Critical Husband—This beef isn't fit to eat. Wife—Well, I told the butcher that if it wasn't good I would send you around to his shop to give him a thrashing, and I hope you'll take some one with you, for he looked pretty fierce, and I didn't like the way he handled his big knife. Husband—Humph! Oh, well, I must say I've seen worse meat than this.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Want Ads pay.

In One Way She Resembles Mother.

A young man on the South Side, newly married, was asked if his wife could make pie like his mother used to make. "Well, I don't know about that," he said, "but she can make about the same 'holler' when I track mud into the house."—Kansas City Star.

Notice to Taxpayers

In accordance with the vote of the Village of St. Johnsbury, to collect the taxes assessed in the village, through its treasurer, you are hereby notified that the following Village Taxes are now in my hands for collection:—General Village Tax, 60c on the dollar of Grand List.

I will be at the Town Clerk's Office over the Passumpsic Savings Bank, in St. Johnsbury, each week day between the hours of 8.30 and 12 o'clock in the forenoon, and 1.30 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon, and Monday and Saturday evenings during the next ninety days to receive the same. A discount of four per cent will be allowed on all taxes so paid. After the expiration of said time, a warrant will be placed in the hands of the Constable for all unpaid taxes.

November 15th is the last day on which Taxes may be paid to Treasurer.

Dated at St. Johnsbury, Vt., this 17th day of August, A. D. 1915.

CHAS. G. BRALEY,
Village Treasurer.

Notice to Taxpayers

In accordance with the vote of the Town of St. Johnsbury, to collect the taxes assessed in the town, through its treasurer, you are hereby notified that the following Town Taxes are now in my hands for collection: Town General Tax, 70c on the dollar of Grand List; Town School Tax, 45c on the dollar of Grand List; Town Highway Tax, 20c on the dollar of Grand List.

I will be at the Town Clerk's Office over the Passumpsic Savings Bank in St. Johnsbury, each week day between the hours of 8.30 and 12 o'clock in the forenoon and 1.30 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon, and Monday and Saturday evenings during the next ninety days to receive the same.

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